

## AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

### THE HOW AND WHY OF HOTBEDS

When a gardener installs a hotbed for the first time, he has made a joyful discovery, wonders why in the world he never had one before, and it is safe to say that unless he is badly cramped for garden room he will never be without one again.

At first the gardener at least a month's head on the season, a chance to get all his vegetables and flowers going in advance of the outdoor planting season, and when it is time to plant the seeds in the open ground he may set sturdy seedlings in the beds ready to go along and give him a crop from two weeks to a month earlier than usual.

There is nothing difficult about the management of a hotbed and a little experimenting will soon render a gardener as expert as it is at all necessary to be, with the most that can be lost during the experimenting being a little seed which can be replaced readily enough, or seedlings that have not advanced very far.

The principal trouble nowdays in making a hotbed is to secure a supply of fresh horse manure, which is the necessary material for furnishing the heat, the fermentation of the manure furnishing the bottom heat, which is the greatest spur to germination and growth. Oil stoves are sometimes used with success where manure is lacking.

A hotbed is merely a wooden frame, or if permanent, made of concrete, to carry glass sash. They may be made of any size to suit a gardener's convenience, but the standard size of frame and sash is the 3x4 foot unit.

A hole is dug in the ground slightly larger than the frame. This is filled to a depth of from fifteen to eighteen inches with fresh horse manure, a strawy manure being the best, which has been stacked six or eight weeks from time to time for several days in order to distribute the fermentation more evenly. This is packed down by tramping it, the manure extending a few inches beyond the walls of the frame on all sides. The frame is then placed upon the manure and four to five inches of good garden soil are spread over the manure.

At first the manure will ferment quite violently and will be altogether too hot for planting. The sash should be raised frequently to lower the temperature and to permit gases to escape. A thermometer should hang on the side of the frame where it can be seen easily. Sow the seed when the thermometer shows the temperature to be 50 or 55. Close attention to watering and ventilation must be given. The soil should not be allowed to dry out nor yet to become water soaked. It is best to water early in the day, so the plants will dry off by night and minimize chances of damping off.

Hotbeds are sometimes started as early as January, but this is hazardous in the northern states, as the manure may become spent before the cold has departed. Usually March is the month to start hotbeds.

It is easy to make home-made hotbeds, but there are also frames knocked down, with the sash all ready to be shipped and set up, on the market.

**STARTING BACKYARD BERMUDAS**  
Many home gardeners have had substantial success in growing fine big onions by sowing the seed indoors or in hotbeds or cold frames and then transplanting the plants to the garden when the ground would permit.

It was the only really big, mild, tender onion that can be grown in the north, and there are several types of seed, such as the Danvers and Pezetaaker varieties, which are adapted for growing home "Bermudas." Alfa Craig is another favorite for big onions.

For young onions, sets should be planted for the first crop with the seedlings to come along for the second early crop, thinning them out to make room for those which are to develop into the big bulbs. Onion soil can't be too rich. In fact, the onion bed should be the best soil in the garden, both from a standpoint of fertility and tillth.

Sow the seed of the big varieties of onions in the house and transplant them into the open six inches apart, if they are all to be grown for big onions, or three inches apart, pulling every alternate onion for young onions, leaving the remainder to develop.

The seed may be sown quite thickly in boxes, indoors, or in frames, as the young plants, with their tiny frames erect, appear take up little room. When transplanted, the tips of the leaves should be snipped off and they should be carefully set and firmed in the soil without breaking over the tender stems. They need rather careful handling at this stage, but it is not at

all a difficult matter to get them growing. After established, a light dressing of nitrate of soda will set them springing.

### DISEASE PREVENTION IN POULTRY RAISING

Disease prevention and eradication is one of the most important things in poultry raising.

The procedure is as follows, according to one expert:

Select for the season's brooding and rearing a plot of land not recently used by poultry and upon which poultry manure has not been spread. Thoroughly disinfect brooder houses and equipment before moving them onto this land.

Remove chickens directly from incubators to brooders and take reasonable precaution in brooding "not to carry, on feet or otherwise, contagion from adult stock. In extreme cases a rigid quarantine might be employed, but ordinarily a reasonable amount of precaution will suffice.

The laying houses should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before pullets are put in them in the fall. Disinfection should be done twice, one application being a specific for the particular infection involved. It is recommended that white wash and carbolic acid or carbolic be the last application. In the case of dirt floors the surface must be removed and concrete substitute or copper sulphate solutions applied before refilling with clean sand.

Pullets had best be confined to the house until adjoining yards are properly sterilized or cropped for at least one full season.

**CORN SILAGE INVESTIGATIONS.**  
Two and a half years ago we had well under way our plans for starting an investigation of the feeding value of maturing silage corn with the ranker growing type which does not mature in many parts of the state, writes Prof. White of the Connecticut Agricultural College at Storrs. The loss of the main barn made it necessary to postpone the feeding trials for a year. A report on the first year's work was presented in full at the college during the Farmers' meetings last summer. It showed clearly that mature corn silage has a higher feeding value pound for pound or ton for ton and that a saving of four or five pounds of grain was effected for each hundred pounds of milk produced. It also showed clearly that the late maturing variety produced more milk per acre because of its enormous yield of dry matter in the stalks and leaves. We are not ready to say which of the two will produce the most profit per acre. These trials are being repeated this winter.

The conduct of this silage feeding experiment furnishes a splendid illustration of the amount of work involved in experimentation. Twelve cows were on the experiment. Each was weighed daily for 120 to 140 days. Each day the average weight of the preceding ten days was determined and these weights were plotted on charting paper for each animal, this weight being used as the guide for the amount of grain to be fed to each. Each kind of feed was analyzed, weighed to each animal accurately daily and the amount recorded. The milk was weighed daily and analyzed each ten-day period. Numerous calculations from these records were then made upon each cow and the whole finally summarized by groups. All of this sort of thing requires close supervision and hours of detailed work.

**BURN UP LAST YEAR'S PESTS.**  
In getting ready to make garden this spring, it is an excellent plan to see that all the stalks of last year's vegetables which may have been left standing are removed and burned.

In the first place the ashes will make good fertilizer as the stems of nearly all vegetables contain excellent fertilizing material in the ash and an even more important consideration is that by removing and destroying them the insect pests are likely to be checked.

Many insect pests find refuge under boards among the dried leaves or stalks over winter. Often the spores of fungus diseases which create havoc are only waiting in these old stems to get into ac-

## The Famous Healing Toilet Powder



**Sykes' Comfort POWDER**  
Heals the Skin  
For Chafing, Rashes and all Skin Soreness of Infants, Children & Adults.  
It contains six healing, antiseptic, disinfecting ingredients not found in ordinary talcum powders.  
There's Nothing Like It. All druggists.

tion with balmy weather. By burning the refuse a great quantity of them will be destroyed.

It is a good plan when ordering seeds for the early garden to lay in a supply of insecticides and Bordeaux mixture for fungous pests, along with the seeds, as they will all be found catalogued in the seed catalogue and will be on hand ready for an emergency.

### SEEKS CITIZENS' OPINION ON NORWICH WHITE WAY

The street lighting committee of the Chamber of Commerce is anxious to get the members to express their real opinion as to the desirability of a White Way in Norwich.

The following letter for a referendum vote has been sent to the Chamber of Commerce members:

The officials of your Chamber of Commerce desire to learn, through this referendum ballot, to the membership your attitude and sentiment towards a White Way for Norwich.

Every effort has been made to put this question before you in a fair and impartial manner. The paragraphs in favor and opposed were not written by any official of the Chamber of Commerce nor by any member of the committee. The committee hopes that their efforts to submit a question in a fair manner meets with your approval.

There is no method by which your committee and the officials of your organization can learn of your attitude but by making use of this ballot and indicating your choice, either for or against, by marking cross. The committee also hopes that you will offer any suggestions or make any remarks pertinent to this matter. They desire and they want your suggestions and your criticisms. Please remember that this is your organization, and your opinion is important and necessary.

Again please make use of this referendum ballot, and note that the time limit set for receiving ballots is not later than Saturday, March 18, at the Chamber of Commerce office, 25 Shattuck street.

Progressive communities are developed through citizens willing to devote some of their time to civic affairs.

Yours for Norwich,  
J. F. MCCORMICK, Chairman,  
O. F. ERMST,  
J. J. MADDEN,  
A. M. PARNICK,  
MAX RABINOVITCH,  
ABNER SCHWARTZ,  
N. E. SMITH,  
C. W. TAGGART,  
L. M. YOUNG,  
Street Lighting Committee.

**In Favor.**  
Note the city that has a White Way and well lighted streets throughout and it can invariably be taken as one of the many signs of a community's prosperity and alertness to modern requirements. It means getting out of the rut and making a good impression upon those who are viewing the city with a critical eye for residential or industrial purposes. It

**They are Happy and Well**  
You Should Be the Same

A LARGE number of women's ailments are not surgical ones. Serious displacements or radical changes have not yet taken place.

A tiny part in a fine clock may become loose and cause the clock to gain or lose. If not attended to in time, the part may fall from its place and cause serious trouble. So it is with women's ailments, they start from simple causes; but if allowed to continue, produce serious conditions.

When the warning symptoms are first noted, take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve the present troublesome ailment, and to prevent the development of serious trouble.

Portland, Ind.—"I was troubled with irregularity and constipation and would often have to lie down because of pains. One Sunday my aunt was visiting us and she said her girls took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and got well, so mother said she guessed she would let me try it. It is doing me good and I praise it highly. You are welcome to use this letter as a testimonial."—STELLA NEWTON, R. R. No. 8, Portland, Ind.

Baltimore, Md.—"For several months I suffered with severe backache and general weakness. I could not sleep comfortably at night for pains in my back. I found your book at home and after reading it began at once to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I have had very good results and some of my girl friends are taking it now. You may use this letter to help other girls as the letters in your book helped me."—ROSE WADSWORTH, 3018 Roseland Place, Baltimore, Md.

Many such letters prove the virtue of

## Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

LYDIA E. PINKHAM MEDICINE CO. LYNN, MASS.

**Cuticura Soap**  
AND OINTMENT  
**Clear the Skin**  
See, Ointment, Toilet Soap, every where. For complete directions, Cuticura Laboratory, Dept. 5, Boston, Mass.

## The Secret of Good Health

Assist Nature back to normal action

Take

When Nature requires assistance, she will not be slow in conveying to you an intimation of the fact. Decline of energy, inability to sleep well, headache, biliousness, constipation, a general sluggishness of mind and body and any sign of digestive "unrest" should impel you to seek the aid of a reliable medicine without delay. There is no better—no surer—no safer—than this proven remedy.

**Beecham's Pills**  
Sold everywhere in boxes  
10c—12 pills  
25c—40 pills  
50c—90 pills

## The Maurice Sample Shop

### Spring Style Exhibit

MARCH 16th, 17th, 18th

## A Display of the Season's Most Beautiful Fashion Ideas

Gathered here are garments of excellent quality, new gay colors, and the artistic trimming effects are features that will greatly impress you. Our new styles of Coats, Suits, Dresses and Hats will please you, as they have been selected with great care, so that the prices and styles will meet with your instant approval.

You will enjoy an early visit to our store, as you will have first choice from this extensive stock while it is complete.

A Most Cordial Welcome Will Await You, and the Utmost Courtesy Will Be Extended to You.

194 MAIN STREET

The Maurice Sample Shop

WAUREGAN HOTEL BLOCK

also means keeping pace with others and, therefore, avoiding that contrast which results unfavorably to us in comparison with cities which are moving ahead instead of being willing to stand still. It is one of the ways of encouraging growth and stimulating enthusiasm and work for other and needed public improvements. There is also a protective service given to the police and fire departments, and an assistance in meeting the present day traffic problems. We have a lighting plant and should have adequate light.

**Not In Favor.**  
An objection to a White Way is the lack of utility. It serves no useful purpose. Against the claim of public protection advanced for it, it may be said that streets in the downtown section already are supplied with plentiful illumination. The only reason for a White Way is its so-called "show" appeal. In this respect its advertising value to a municipality is not commensurate with the expense of installation and maintenance. The only way to reduce taxes is to stop spending money, or at least stop spending money ineffectively. Money for a White Way can be spent more profitably and more wisely on streets at present inadequately or improperly lighted.

**Superior Court Suit Withdrawn.**  
A suit brought on the common counts for \$5,000 damages by Henderson & Bros., Inc., against John Call, both of Philadelphia, has been withdrawn without costs from the superior court of New London county. The United States Finishing Co. was garnished in the suit.

### CONNECTICUT STUDENTS WIN HONORS AT BATES

(Special to The Bulletin.)  
Lewiston, Me., March 14.—The list of honor students averaging 90 or over in studies for the first semester recently given out by the registrar of Bates college includes the names of two students from Eastern Connecticut: Walter V. Gavigan, '24, of Willimantic and Miss Margaret Mahan of New London.

Mr. Gavigan is prominent in campus life at Bates and is debating editor of "The Student," the undergraduate publication, and secretary of the Bates Press club.

Miss Mahan is a member of the freshman class and is active in the X-Tra club and other co-ed societies.

### COLONIAL EVENING PROGRAM BY ART STUDENTS ASSN.

On Monday evening the Norwich Art Students Association enjoyed a program of unusual interest.

Under the direction of a committee composed of Miss Elizabeth Huntington, Mrs. Eben Learned, Mrs. John D. Hall, Mrs. A. A. Browning and Miss Edith Rockwell, the small lecture room at Slater Hall had been transformed into a well furnished New England kitchen with the wide hearth and low ceiling typical of Colonial days. The setting by the fire, the Dutch oven, the old fashioned cradle, the fowling-piece that was used at Lundy's Lane, the choice pewter, the candlesticks, and the home spun linen were all very interesting. Miss Alice Browning, clad in the wedding gown of an ancestor, operated the

flux wheel which cooked one corner of the roast.

The paper of the evening, entitled Colonial Kitchens, was given by Mrs. A. A. Browning and was a vivid portrayal of the life and customs which characterized the kitchens of olden times. A very attractive feature of the evening was the stately minuet danced by Miss Elizabeth Higgins and Miss Gertrude Weeks.

A double quartet sang old time songs closing with Auld Lang Syne in which the audience joined.

Delicious mulled grape juice and snappers were served and a pleasant social hour followed.

### FOUR NORWICH OFFICERS IN REGULAR ARMY RESERVE

Thirty-four officers of the regular army reserve, ranging in rank from second lieutenant to captain have been assigned to the 417th Infantry, 76th Division, in orders issued Monday at headquarters of the 76th Division, U. S. A., Hartford. In the list are the following Eastern Connecticut men:  
Webster D. Copp, 1st Lieutenant; Arthur J. McNamara, 2d Lieutenant; Calvin M. Richardson, 2d Lieutenant; James P. Walsh, 2d Lieutenant, all of Norwich; Truman P. Chipman, 1st Lieutenant, New London; Peter J. Cassio, 2d Lieutenant, Willimantic.

### Will Close Selectmen's Office.

Out of respect to the late Thurston H. Lillibridge, who at one time was selectman of the town, the selectmen's office will be closed today (Wednesday) during the funeral hour.

## Did you ever try Grape-Nuts? with stewed prunes or peaches?

THERE isn't anything better for breakfast or lunch than a dish of Grape-Nuts, with cream or milk, and stewed prunes or peaches.

This delicious combination gives you the elements of a well-balanced food. For it contains not only the material needed to build tissue and furnish energy, but it also supplies fruit acids, that help keep the system in good order.

Go to your grocer today and order a package of delicious Grape-Nuts. You will find that it will digest more readily than most other cereals, and it will "stay by" you longer—because it's so richly nourishing.

## Grape-Nuts for Health "There's a Reason"

